

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20

STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 FEA-02

OMB-01 DRC-01 /177 W

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R 050700Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0061

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 3093

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, IN

SUBJECT: INDIA ARTICLE XXVIII RENEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 040406

1. WE TALKED TO NARISIMHAN ABOUT ARTICLE XXVIII RENEGOTIATIONS. HE AGREED THERE IS NO POINT IN HOLDING NEGOTIATING SESSIONS IN ADVANCE OF INDIAN RESPONSE TO U S REQUEST FOR COMPENSATION. HE SAID RESPONSE HAS BEEN HELD UP PENDING CLEARANCE AROUND GOI AND AWAITING EC REQUEST FOR COMPENSATION. EC HAS JUST INDICATED IT WILL MAKE A REQUEST BUT HAS NOT YET GIVEN DETAILS. NARISIMHAN PROMISED TO FURNISH EMBASSY WITH INDIAN RESPONSE TO U S REQUEST BY MARCH 18 AND SUGGESTED THAT CONSULTATIONS MIGHT TAKE PLACE WITHIN A MONTH AFTER THAT DATE.

2. NARISIMHAN SIAD GOI ACCEPTS U S ESTIMATE OF \$9 MILLION TRADE DAMAGE, BUT HAS NOT YET DECIDED WHETHER INDIA, AS A DEVELOPING COUNTRY, WILL OFFER EQUIVALENT COMPENSATION. HE REITERATED HIS APPEAL THAT U S ACCEPT ELIMINATION OF MARGIN OF PREFERENCE AS A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MAJOR PART OF INDIA'S COMPENSATION. HE ASKED US TO STRESS TO

WASHINGTON THAT HE IS OFFERING IMMEDIATE (RATHER THAN
PHASED) ELIMINATION OF ALL PREFERENCES, AND COVERAGE OF ALL
REPEAT ALL ITEMS WHERE PREFERECES EXIST, NOT JUST THOSE ITEMS
ON U S OCTOBER 24 LIST WHICH ARE SUBJECT TO PREFERENTIAL
ARRANGEMENTS. HE SIAD HE BELIEVES NATURE OF ITEMS ON WHICH
PREFERENCES TO UK EXIST ARE SUCH AS TO OFFER U S REAL TRADE
ADVANTAGES FROM THEIR ELIMINATION.
NARISIMHAN ADDED THAT INDIA IS ALSO PREPARED TO OFFER BINDINGS ON
PRESENTLY UNBOUND ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE US BUT SAID IT IS OUT
OF THE QUESTION TO ROLL BACK ANY RECENTLY INCREASED TARRIFFS. HE
AGAIN MADE POINT THAT IN VIEW OF INDIAN LICENSING SYSTEM, ROLLING
BACK TARIFFS OFTEN HAS NO TRADE EFFECT.
MOYNIHAN

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Message Attributes

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